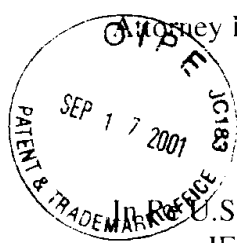


1764



Attorney Docket No. 1955 P 073

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application of)
JEFFREY M. BENTLEY, et al.)
Application No.: 09/872,166)
Confirmation No.: 9157)
Filed: June 1, 2001)
For: REACTOR FOR PRODUCING HYDROGEN)
FROM HYDROCARBON FUELS)

Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 1764

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
SEP 17 2001
TC 1764

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining the application identified above, please amend the application as follows. Note that this amendment is being submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121 and includes as a separate attachment a duplicate copy of the marked-up claims corresponding to the amended claims.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims by substituting the following amended claims for like-numbered claims presently in the application.

55. (Amended) A reformer reactor for producing hydrogen-rich gas comprising:
a first zone for containing a reaction stream with reactants, said first zone comprising a partial oxidation reaction vessel having an opening for emission of the reactants into the first zone;
a collection space for collecting gaseous product;